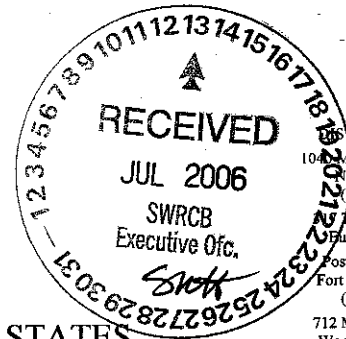


MIKE THOMPSON  
1<sup>ST</sup> District, California

Committee  
Ways and Means



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Washington, DC 20515



DISTRICT OFFICES:  
104 Main Street, Suite 101  
Eureka, CA 94559  
(707) 226-9898  
Third Street, Suite I  
Eureka, CA 95501  
Post Office Box 2208  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437  
(707) 962-0933  
712 Main Street, Suite 1  
Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 662-5272

Capitol office:  
231 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3311

Web: <http://mikethompson.house.gov>

July 13, 2006

Ms. Tam M. Doduc, Chair  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SRF Loan Number C-06-6090-110/Big River and Salmon Creek Conservation Project

Dear Ms. Doduc:

I am writing to express my support for the Conservation Fund's loan application from a State Revolving Fund to assist with the purchase of approximately 16,400 acres of forestland located in the Big River and Salmon Creek watersheds in Mendocino County.

The coastal forests of Mendocino County are a remarkable resource. However, the increasing pace of residential and agricultural development of forestland throughout the region presents a serious threat to the future integrity of these important coastal ecosystems and the biological, scenic, economic and recreational benefits they provide for residents and visitors alike.

By assisting with funding of the Big River/Salmon Creek purchase, the Water Board would play a leading role in securing a sustainable future for the coastal forests of Mendocino County. The loan would also demonstrate an efficient use of the Revolving Fund and would be invaluable for the protection and restoration of streams and fish habitat.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal, which is essential to securing a sustainable future for the coastal forests of Mendocino County.

Sincerely,

MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress

MT:ca